

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA NORTHEASTERN DIVISION

DUSTIN HEATH BRISCOE,)
Plaintiff,)
v.) CIVIL ACTION NO. 5:11-CV-4204-SLB
MICHAEL J. ASTRUE,)
Commissioner of Social Security,))
Defendant.)

MEMORANDUM OPINION

The plaintiff, Dustin Heath Briscoe, brings this action seeking judicial review of a final adverse decision of the Commissioner of the Social Security

Administration (the Commissioner) denying his application for Social Security Benefits.

Dustin Heath Briscoe filed an application for Social Security Benefits. Thereafter,

plaintiff timely pursued and exhausted the administrative remedies available before the

Commissioner. Accordingly, this case is now ripe for judicial review pursuant to the

provisions of section 205(g) of the Social Security Act (the Act), 42 U.S.C. § 405(g).

The sole function of this court is to determine whether the decision of the Commissioner is supported by substantial evidence and whether proper legal standards were applied. <u>Bloodsworth v. Heckler</u>, 703 F.2d 1233, 1239 (11th Cir. 1983). To that end this court "must scrutinize the record as a whole to determine if the decision reached is reasonable and supported by substantial evidence." Bloodsworth, at 1239 (citations

omitted). Substantial evidence is "such relevant evidence as a reasonable person would accept as adequate to support a conclusion." <u>Bloodsworth</u>, at 1239. The court has carefully reviewed the entire record in this case and is of the opinion that the Commissioner's decision is supported by substantial evidence and that proper legal standards were applied in reaching that decision. Accordingly, the decision of the Commissioner must be affirmed.

A separate order in conformity with this memorandum opinion will be entered.

DONE and **ORDERED** this 14th day of January, 2013.

Sharm Lovelace Blackburn
SHARON LOVELACE BLACKBURN
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE